

For immediate release  
Daughtrey

Contact: Erica

September 14, 2009

(201) 222-2828

*Washington, DC* – Today, the U.S. House of Representatives approved a resolution, introduced by Congressman Albio Sires, to recognize the persistently high rates of drowning fatalities among children and the importance of swimming education.

“Roughly 3,500 people fatally drown each year in the United States – that is about 10 people a day - and more than 25 percent of these victims are children 14 and under. In fact, drowning is the second most common cause of accidental death among children. Fatal drowning rates are 2 to 3 times higher among minority children, and these statistics are shameful,” explained Congressman Sires.

The resolution also celebrates the hard work of initiatives that currently provide swimming lessons to underprivileged communities as well as other efforts that help educate children, parents and caregivers about drowning prevention.

“I am pleased that the House of Representatives has passed this resolution that recognizes the contributions of organizations that are working to prevent drowning. Together with these organizations, we must promote access to the type of education that can not only improve children’s health, but help save their lives,” added the Congressman.

The resolution passed unanimously by voice vote.